

Valdez COVID-19 Unified Command

NEWS RELEASE # 023

For immediate release: 09/26/2020, 8:00 p.m.

Valdez, AK – The community of Valdez received confirmation of a new non-resident case of COVID-19 on Saturday.

The new non-resident case is an asymptomatic adult visitor. The patient is in isolation in a Valdez residence and following the guidance of their medical provider and public health officials. The contact investigation for this new case is ongoing, with close contacts anticipated to be notified by Sunday afternoon. Preliminary contact investigation indicates no apparent link between this patient and the resident case announced in news release 022. The source investigation also remains ongoing. Preliminary source investigation indicates the patient likely contracted the virus while in Alaska.

Valdez must continue making thoughtful and careful decisions as long as COVID-19 remains present in our community and beyond. Taking individual actions like hand hygiene, physical distancing, wearing a cloth face covering around others, keeping your social circle small, avoiding high risk activities such as large gatherings, being extra cautious during travel, and staying home when you are sick all make a big impact towards keeping our community safe.

If you believe you have even mild COVID-19 symptoms, please contact your healthcare provider for screening and closely follow their instructions. Remember to call ahead before you go to the doctor's office, public health clinic, or hospital. The local medical team will continue to provide the best possible care for you and our community.

Both symptomatic and asymptomatic COVID-19 testing are currently available in Valdez. Visit the Valdez Unified Command website (www.valdezak.gov/COVID-19) for additional information and to learn more about different local testing options. If you feel you may have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, please contact the local public health nurse or your medical provider for guidance. Timeline for testing will vary depending upon your possible exposure date.

The Valdez Unified Command and public health officials continue to closely monitor the COVID-19 situation. We ask the community to practice compassion and remember that behind every case count number is a person dealing with a difficult diagnosis. We remain committed to providing information, support, and resources to protect the health of Valdez.

VALDEZ COVID-19 CASE COUNT Last updated 09.26.2020 @ 8:00 p.m. **CUMULATIVE CUMULATIVE** RECOVERED **DEATHS HOSPITALIZATIONS** CASES TO DATE CASES CASES VALDEZ 12 11 RESIDENT 27 28 1* NON-RESIDENT

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